

REMARKS

Applicants have amended their claims in order to further clarify the definition of various aspects of the present invention. Specifically, Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 4 therein. In view thereof, Applicants have cancelled claim 4 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Moreover, Applicants have cancelled non-elected claims 7-14 without prejudice or disclaimer, and, in particular, without prejudice to the filing of a Divisional application directed to the subject matter thereof.

Applicants note with thanks the indication by the Examiner of allowable subject matter in claim 4, set forth in Item 6 on page 4 of the Office Action mailed February 2, 2006. In view of incorporation of the subject matter of claim 4 into claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1, and all claims dependent thereon (claims 2, 3, 5 and 6), should be allowed.

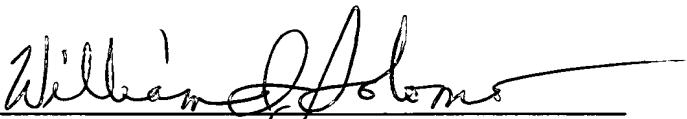
The rejection of claims on prior art grounds, as set forth in Items 3 and 5 on pages 2-4 of the Office Action mailed February 2, 2006, is noted. In view of incorporation of subject matter of claim 4 into claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the prior art rejections are moot; and, accordingly, no further discussion of the prior art rejections is necessary.

In view of the foregoing comments and amendments, reconsideration and allowance of all claims remaining in the application, and passing of the above-identified application to issue in due course, are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135, (case No. 501.43377X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

By 
William I. Solomon
Registration No. 28,565

WIS/ksh
1300 N. Seventeenth Street
Suite 1800
Arlington, Virginia 22209
Tel: 703-312-6600
Fax: 703-312-6666